

REPORT / RECOMMENDATION



To: MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL

Agenda Item #: IV. J.

From: Scott H. Neal, City Manager

Action ☒

Discussion ☐

Date: March 4, 2014

Information ☐

Subject: City Council Members Attendance at National League of Cities Conference

Action Requested:

Motion to authorize City Council Members to attend the 2014 Congressional Cities Conference of the National League of Cities in Washington, DC

Information / Background:

The City of Edina recognizes that its elected official may at times receive value from traveling out of the state for workshops, conferences, events and other assignments. The City Council adopted a policy to regulate out-of-state travel by elected officials on December 6, 2005. The policy requires staff to estimate the cost of the out-of-state travel and to have the Council approve the out-of-travel in advance of the travel.

The action incorporated into the proposed motion is to authorize the travel of Council Members Bennett, Brindle and Sprague to attend the 2014 Congressional Cities Conference of the National League of Cities in Washington, DC on March 9-12. In addition to the conference training sessions, Council Members will also meet with Edina's elected representatives and/or their respective staffs to discuss issues of special concern to the City.

The estimated cost of the travel, lodging and conference costs is \$2,000/Council Member.

Recommendation:

The National League of Cities is widely recognized as the preeminent professional association for elected municipal officials. The Congressional Cities Conference represents a valuable opportunity for learning and professional development for Members of our City Council. The estimated cost is a good value for the City, especially considering that Council Members take unpaid time away from work and from their families to attend. I strongly recommend the City Council approve the requested motion.